LIBRARY
22 AUG 1955
STATE LEGISLATURE, MADRAS

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 13th May 1952.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

I.—CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION *RE* THE DEATH OF DR. U. RAMA RAO.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" Hon. Members might have heard about the sad demise of Dr. U. Rama Rao. I have received notice of a resolution from Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachari, Leader of the House, in that connexion. The Hon. the Leader of the House may move the Resolution."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a very sad duty that we have to perform on this occasion. We all knew that our ex-Chairman of this Council, or as he was then called the President of the Council, was old, but we did not expect that he would pass away in this sudden manner. He was beloved of all the people of Madras. He was beloved of all the Members of this Council and the Assembly for many, many years past. He performed his duties as President of the Council in such a way as to create no friction or difficulties. Everybody respected and honoured him. As regards the services rendered by him to society in general and to sick people in particular, I need hardly repeat what has already been said by many and what has been written by many. He was specially beloved because of his great gentlemanliness, accessibility, frankness and readiness to serve on all occasions. He was a self-made man. He began life humbly and lived a rich life and when he passed away he deservedly met his death in a peaceful and happy manner. He hardly knew and his family hardly knew that he would pass away in the early hours of the morning of yesterday. He had hardly any pain or any sickness previous to that. Now, such a death would be the envy of everyone who valued things according to their proper values. In particular, Sir, this House owes it to him and his memory that we should record our appreciation of all his services to society and to the people who required the services of the profession to which he belonged. We must specially record our appreciation of his services in the Council. I need not say all that I have said in another place. I am sure other hon. Members who will follow me will refer in detail to all that he did for the public. I move that the following Resolution be adopted by the House :—

' *That this House places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the demise of Dr. U. Rama Rao, a former distinguished President of this Council and a Member of the Legislature for many years and conveys its sense of sympathy to the members of the bereaved family* '."

[13th May 1952

* SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is my painful privilege to associate myself with the Resolution just now moved by the Hon. Chief Minister. Dr. Rama Rao died full of years and honours. I have known him for a pretty long time. Long before he became associated with the politics of this State, he played a very memorable role in the Corporation of Madras in those days when there was an official President who was also the Commissioner of the Corporation. I remember the many memorable fights in which he took part along with the late Dr. Nair. Both of them were redoubtable fighters for various rights that the Corporation wanted in those days, and which were stoutly resisted by the then official party in the Corporation. Besides this, he came to public life and played a very humble, but at the same time a very important role in politics. He was associated with every movement started for the betterment of the political and social conditions of our people. I should like to say that the end of a righteous man, as the Bible puts it, is something to be observed. As the Hon. Chief Minister pointed out, Dr. Rama Rao had a happy end. He usefully spent his life after retirement. I used to meet him occasionally when he used to go out for a walk, and he was always kind and he used to ask me, how I was getting on. He lived not only a long and laborious life, but at the same time, he lived to see his beloved son, Dr. U. Krishna Rao occupying the Mayoral Chair of the Corporation of Madras, and during the last one month, becoming a Member of the Council of Ministers of this State. I wish to convey, along with other hon. Members of this House, through you, Sir, my feelings of sympathy and my sincere condolences to the members of the bereaved family."

* JANAB MAHOMED USMAN :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to associate myself with the Resolution that has been so ably moved by the Hon. Chief Minister. Dr. Rama Rao was the President of the Council for about 2½ years or so. I think that when the Council was inaugurated in 1937, I was the temporary President. At that time, I remember that Dr. Rama Rao was elected permanent President of the Council. I very well remember the very dignified way in which he conducted the proceedings of the Council. As has been pointed out by the Hon. Chief Minister, Dr. Rama Rao was a good doctor and he was always kind to the poor people. He was a great gentleman. He has many friends and I do not think that there can be anybody who can be called his enemy. It is a matter of great regret and sorrow that such a good man has passed away. I am sure that the resolution that we are passing will give a certain amount of consolation to Dr. Krishna Rao and his family. As was rightly said by my Friend, Sri Chakkarai Chettiar, it is a matter for satisfaction that God has allowed him to see his son, Dr. Krishna Rao, become a Minister of this State. I associate myself with the sentiments expressed in the Resolution so ably moved by the Hon. Chief Minister."

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is with feelings of profound sorrow that I get up to associate myself

13th May 1952] [Dr. C. Nathamuni Naidu]

with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers on the sad and sudden demise of a veteran medical man in the City of Madras. He was the organiser of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade in the City of Madras and many men have taken their training in first aid from him. I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. Members of this House that he belonged to a class of medical men who formed the backbone of the medical profession. He was one of those medical men who fought very hard in those days to bring in a uniform standard of medical education. There was the dual system of medical education. He fought hard and he impressed upon the then Health Minister, Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, the need for having a uniform standard of education. Dr. Rajan consequently introduced a very good reform in medical education. Dr. Rama-Rao said that the Licentiate course should either be ended or mended. Dr. Rajan took the advice of Dr. Rama Rao and other medical men in this matter and ended that Licentiate course. That is why we have to-day only one system of medical education, namely, the Degree Course. I should say that the whole credit for this should go to the late lamented Dr. Rama Rao. He has left a very good tradition in this House. I am glad that you, Sir, are occupying this Chair, as a second medical man. Dr. Rama Rao, during his Presidentship of the Council had set up a very good tradition, which could very well be followed by those who occupy the Chair.

"As regards his love for the City, he evinced keen interest in the civic administration of the City of Madras and I think he served on the Madras Corporation for 2 or 3 years. In the death of Dr. Rama Rao, we have lost a very good patron and a veteran Congressman. I saw him just a month back. I cannot describe, Gentlemen, in words, the zeal with which he was expressing to me that the Congress should form the Government in this State under the able leadership of Sri Rajaji. I am glad that his idea has been fulfilled. I am also glad that Dr. Rama Rao died only after seeing his son occupying a place in the Council of Ministers under Rajaji's leardership in this State. I once again associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the Hon. Chief Minister. I pray that Almighty may be pleased to keep his soul in peace. Thank you, Sir."

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of the women of the St. John Ambulance Nursus' Corps, I would like to associate myself with the Resolution before the House expressing sorrow and sympathy at the passing away of Dr. Rama Rao. Sir, it was at his instance that voluntary lady workers came together for nursing work in hospitals. He always encouraged the nursing profession especially in the old days when it was not the habit for Indian ladies to come forward and do nursing. Right from those early times, he took a great interest in the profession and encouraged younger people to do their bit for the country in other fields of work. On behalf of the women volunteers, I associate myself with the resolution and convey my deep sympathy to the members of his family." 11-15 a.m.

[13th May 1952

* SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of the Opposition, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the Hon. the Leader of the House. Dr. U. Rama Rao was well-known to the older Members of the House. He was a distinguished surgeon and he was keenly interested in the advancement of the medical profession. He was known to the world outside the medical profession, as a fighter in the cause of freedom. In Madras City, he and Mr. T. Prakasam, were responsible to a great extent for the great freedom struggle which was waged in the last three decades. He was generous-hearted and no Congress worker who went to him ever returned empty-handed.

" Sir, as President of the first Legislative Council constituted under the Government of India Act, 1935, he did great service in establishing good precedents and he is known to have moved well with the Members. There was no case of friction between him and any Member whether of the Government or of the Opposition. I, therefore, associate myself with the Resolution and would like to express my deep sense of sorrow at the unhappy event."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I would like to associate myself very closely with the Resolution of Condolence moved by the Hon. the Leader of the House. Dr. Rama Rao's name was a household word in Madras City and I still remember when I came to Madras as a young medical student in 1912, Dr. Rama Rao was already famous as a doctor. He started life humbly and from a small beginning, he had been able to establish a very big reputation for himself and his family. Young medical men always looked up to him for help and advice which were always given without stint. To me personally he had been of very great help both professionally and otherwise. As the Hon. the Leader of the House said, nobody could wish for a better form of death than passing away without any pain and very quietly. He had the great privilege and satisfaction of living long to realise the highest ambition of seeing one of his sons as a Minister of this Government and another son enjoying very great reputation as one of the finest surgeons not only in India but outside. With these words, I associate the Chair with the Resolution before the House.

" The Resolution is—

' That this House places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the demise of Dr. U. Rama Rao, a former distinguished President of this Council, and a Member of the Legislature for many years and conveys its sense of sympathy to the members of the bereaved family '."

The Resolution was carried *nem. con.* all the Members standing.

II.—CHANGE IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS.

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Order Paper mentions the Motion that I have given notice of as the next item to be taken up. It would be more convenient to all concerned if the discussion on the Governor's Address is continued uninterrupted? I suggest we might perhaps close it before lunch time and then my Motion may be taken up."